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(54) **RAP1-GTP, RAC1-GTP AND FMS-LIKE TYROSINE KINASE 3 LIGAND (FLT3-L) AS BIOMARKERS FOR EARLY DETECTION OF SEPSIS**

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ABSTRACT

The present invention is directed to the discovery that Rap1-GTP, Rac1-GTP and Flt3-L can be used as Biomarkers for the early detection of sepsis in patients suspected of a bacterial infection which presents as sepsis or is likely to produce sepsis. In particular, the present invention is directed to methods, assays and kits which may be used to distinguish sepsis (infection) from systematic inflammatory response caused by sterile inflammation in trauma patients. The method may be used to diagnose bacteria infection and/or sepsis and monitor therapy of a patient to allow modification of treatment and/or cessation of treatment.

